1		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	AMY L. DOBBERTEEN Assistant Deputy Director, Bar No. 155111 DEBRA L. DENTON Assistant Chief Counsel, Bar No. 164482 LOTTE COLBERT Staff Counsel, Bar No. 207157 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE 980 Ninth Street, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95814-7243 Telephone: (916) 323-0435 Facsimile: (916) 323-0438	MAY 2 5 2006 DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE By Susan Sale Filing Clerk
8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE	
9	OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	IN THE MATTER OF:	Enforcement Matter No.: 06-137
11	WELLPOINT HEALTH NETWORKS,	
12	INC.	AMENDED ODDED DE
13	dba BLUE CROSS OF CALIFORNIA) AMENDED ORDER RE:COMPLIANCE WITH California Code
14	Respondent	of Regulations, title 28, section 1300.65(c)(4)
15) 1300.03(c)(4)
16		
17	***************************************	
18		
19	The Director of the Department of Managed Health Care, by and through her	
20	designee, Assistant Deputy Director Amy L. Dobberteen, after investigation, determines	
21	as follows:	
22	<u>PARTIES</u>	
23	1. The Director of the Department of Managed Health Care (the Department)	
24	is vested with the responsibility to administer and enforce the Knox-Keene Health Care	
25	Service Plan Act of 1975, as amended, Health and Safety Code section 1340 et seq.	
26	(Knox-Keene Act).	
27	///	
28	111	
	II	

-1-

Matter ID: 06-137 Doc No.: 19824

28

2. Blue Cross of California (Blue Cross) is a health care service plan licensed under the Knox-Keene Act, license number 933 0415, and regulated by the Department of Managed Health Care.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- 3. It is the intent of the Legislature to promote the delivery and the quality of health and medical care to the people of the State of California who enroll in, or subscribe for the services rendered by, a health care service plan or specialized health care service plan by "Promoting effective representation of the interests of subscribers and enrollees." (Health and Safety Code section 1342(e).)
- 4. The Director is empowered to enforce compliance with this Act by Health and Safety Code section 1344(a), which provides:

The Director may from time to time adopt . . . such orders as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

5. Health and Safety Code section 1365(b) provides, in part:

An enrollee or subscriber who alleges that an enrollment or subscription has been cancelled or not renewed because of the enrollee's or subscriber's health status or requirements for health care services may request a review by the director.

6. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 28, section 1300.65(c)(1),

A notice of cancellation of health care coverage must be in writing and dated, and must state the cause for cancellation, with specific reference to the clause of the plan contract giving rise to the right of cancellation.

7. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 28, section 1300.65(c)(4) a notice of cancellation of health care coverage shall state:

That a subscriber or enrollee who alleges that an enrollment or subscription has been cancelled or not renewed because of the enrollee's or subscriber's health status or requirements for health care services may request a review of cancellation by the Director.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED from this date forward, that Blue Cross shall include in each and every notice of cancellation, rescission or limitation of health care coverage (including, but not limited to, rescissions under Health and Safety Code section 1389.3), a clear and concise notice to the enrollee or subscriber of their statutory right to request a review by the Director pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1365(b) and California Code of Regulations, title 28, section 1300.65(c)(4). The Notice to the enrollee or subscriber shall include the following language:

If you believe that your enrollment or subscription for health care coverage was cancelled, rescinded, limited or not renewed because of your health status or your requirements for health care services, you have the right to request that the Director of the Department of Managed Health Care review Blue Cross of California's decision. Your request for review can be made by completing a Cancellation Complaint Form and delivering it to the Department of Managed Health Care. You may obtain a copy of this complaint form from the Department's internet website (http://www.hmohelp.ca.gov) or by requesting a copy from Blue Cross of California, P.O. Box 9086, Oxnard, CA 93031-9086.

This Order shall be effective until further Order from the Director.

Dated: May 25, 2006 LUCINDA EHNES, Director

Department of Managed Health Care

AMY L. DOBBERTEEN

Assistant Deputy Director

Department of Managed Health Care

--

By:

Matter ID: 06-137 Doc No.: 19824